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BLACK OUT
LONDON
6.32 p.m.—6.39 a.m.
BIRMINGHAM
6.35 p.m.—7.12 a.m.
Bristol
6.37 p.m.—7.2 a.m.
(Supplied by Auto-
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No. 3181 62nd Year
Sunday, OCTOBER 18, 1942

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Stalingrad Defenders Give More Ground As Hitler Orders "Final" Assault On City

RESISTANCE IS STILL UNBROKEN

HITLER, MASSING GREAT CONCENTRATIONS OF TANKS, GUNS, INFANTRY AND BOMBERS, HAS LAUNCHED WHAT HE HOPES WILL BE THE FINAL AND SUCCESSFUL ASSAULT ON STALINGRAD.

The fury of the attack, the tactics used in which men and machines are being flung into the battle, suggests that the latest assault has been ordered in an attempt to fulfil Hitler's promise to the German people: "We will take Stalingrad."

Attack follows attack. Thousands of tons of bombs and shells blasting the embattled ruins of the city. Tank and infantry divisions have been brought up, and it seems that the assault is being made in the most intense manner, somewhat on the lines of attacks in the last few days. Under the fury of the German attack, the Russians had to make a further withdrawal in an unimportant sector of the Stalingrad front, but late last night Moscow reported an improvement in the Russian position north-west of the city.

The fighting was fiercest in the northern suburbs where the bulk of the Nazi forces were employed. It was claimed that German troops had penetrated into the Red barracks gun factory. Moscow did not confirm this, but admitted that the Germans had renewed their attacks in the factory area.

RUSSIAN FEROCITY

But one thing is certain. The Nazis are paying more dearly than they for any slight advance. They are being hit in the back by the "Iron Division" of the Red Army. The enemy continues to be very heavy. German tanks are burning on the streets of the city, and before our eyes. Here and there are signs of the enemy's retreat.

Henry Shapiro, R.U.P. correspondent at Moscow, called yesterday that at one point in the northern area of the city the Red Army "has been back to the Volga, and as usual, is fighting with heroic ferocity." The Germans, however, he said, are reported to be bringing up more reserves in an effort to mop up the city at all costs. "All the latest Nazi attacks have been repulsed and the enemy has been compelled to regroup some of its badly mauled forces."

RELIEF THRUSTS

Robert Magdoff, the U.S. broadcaster in Moscow, said yesterday the combined efforts of hundreds of tanks and several tank and heavy divisions have brought the Germans a little nearer to their objective, but this is not the end of the heroic city. The resistance of the defenders has not been broken. The Soviet army continues to thrust forward, despite the wedge of German left flank.

Reports from the front the Germans have captured the city of Shumshin between Makop and the Black Sea, and to have taken more of the fighting around the city of Terek in the Eastern Caucasus.

Messages from Reuters, B.U.P. exchange.

Russia Grows Stronger Every Day

Moscow, Saturday. RUSSIAN war industry, which the Germans claim to have destroyed, is still expanding rapidly. This was stated today at Yaroslavl, an industrial town north-west of Moscow, by M. K. Kalinin, President of the Central Executive Committee of the Soviet Union.

"We Will Hold Volga Bastion"

Red Army Pledge To Stalin

ALL Russia, from Stalin down to the youngest members of the Soviet Youth Movement, are inspired by the heroic defenders of Stalingrad; and yesterday from Moscow came new evidence of the determination of the Russian nation to crush the German invaders.

STALIN himself gave a lead to the country. "It is impossible to defeat the enemy without learning to hate him with all our heart," he declared in a message printed in yesterday's issue of "Komsomol Pravda," the Young Communists League organ.

"We will die, BUT—And as though in reply to Stalin's message, the battle rages. The enemy has no distinguished itself in repelling tank attacks on the city. The only they lose."

"We swear to our dear Fatherland and our powerful Comrade Party, we swear to you, our leader, Comrade Stalin, we will not take a step back. We will die, but we will hold the Volga against our dearest Stalin."

Then it was announced that military units and groups in the Youth Movement are to take a march during the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the revolution. The new oath they will take is:

"I hate the Fascist invaders with the whole of my heart. I shall tirelessly prepare for the defence of the Fatherland. I swear by the lives of the fighters who gave their lives for our happiness. I shall remain firm, because their blood is burning on my pioneer tie and red banner."

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BERLIN SAYS: "NO NAPOLEONIC DANGER"

The German Radio last night told its listeners that "although the vast territories in the East have been conquered by German troops, they will soon be the grip of snow and ice and will again accept the great catastrophe which has befallen the German and allied soldiers."

But a Napoleonic catastrophe, which was so near last winter, is no longer possible," the announcer said. In proof of this assertion he gave a long article dealing with improvements in the railways in the East.—Reuters.

MEET YOUNG "KUT"

Flight-Lieut. KUTTELWASCHER, famous Czech night fighter pilot, here in proud moment holding his son, Edouard Huie, aged one month. "Kut's" wife is a Welsh girl.



City's Greatest Crisis

NAZI BID TO GET GRIP ON VOLGA

From HAROLD KING, Reuter's Special Correspondent.

Moscow, Saturday. THE Red German light is up again at Stalingrad. The German Command, after a pause for regrouping, is now attempting the less ambitious but none the less dangerous plan of concentrating all available forces to smash through across the narrow northern tip of the city and establish a hold on the Volga Bank.

The available enemy forces are now much diminished by the terrific slaughter of the past two and a half months, but by a concentration of a small sector they are still formidable, as the present battles are showing.

The whole struggle now turns on whether the Germans can succeed in grabbing and holding that section of the Volga river bank which lies close to the workers' settlement abandoned by the Soviet troops yesterday.

Thus Stalingrad faces its greatest crisis of all, as Hitler piles on his heavy forces in the final assault to conquer the city before the grim Russian winter comes.

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Mr. Cowles added that China was bitter towards the United States, but here they are still held on their attempts to break through the Soviet resistance spread of the optimistic predictions of Mr. Cowles.

REPUBLIC TANKS LEFT OVER

S. Troops Land In Liberia

Monrovia, Liberia, Saty. LIBERIA, independent and neutral Negro republic on the West African coast, has suddenly jumped into the limelight.

American troops have arrived here. It can be revealed today, and RAF patrols have been established to counter U-boats, which have been active 500 to 600 miles off shore.

One vessel was recently sunk by a U-boat, with it is believed, considerable loss of life, including Italian prisoners of war.

President Roosevelt's representative in Monrovia left yesterday after extensive discussions with President Barclay of Liberia.

GERMANS MAY LEAVE It is probable that the German Coastal-Group and its staff will be asked to leave. Other Germans were evacuated in a U-boat from the Ivory Coast some weeks ago.

It is believed that Liberia may shortly officially announce her adherence to the United Nations cause.

It may be recalled that as long ago as October, the German Radio stated that about 20 ships carrying U.S. troops and material had arrived at Port Takoradi, on the Gold Coast.

Liberia, where the American have landed, is about 750 miles from Dakar, the French West African principal port and capital.

The population is estimated at 2,000,000, of whom 15,000 are descendants of liberated American slaves.

Liberia owes its origin to the American Colonization Society, which in 1821 bought the land and settled a small body of freed slaves there.

At 9.35 p.m. listeners were told that a programme entitled "They Die With Their Boots Clean," based on extracts from a book by the late American writer Gerald Kersh.

But yesterday afternoon a substitute programme was broadcast. Kersh's book describes life in a U.S. submarine and machine gunner's style, and is one of the broadest, pre-war best-sellers. It was approved by the War Office, and the Ministry of Information.

It was given for the cancellation. A War Office spokesman told that the broadcast has been postponed for the present because of reconsideration of the material selected from the book.

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Under cover of this fire large Japanese reinforcements, which had been arriving almost daily in the past week, crept forward for the attack.

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Shadowed For Four Days

CONVOY BEATS U-BOAT PACKS

FOR four days a U-boat pack shadowed a large Atlantic convoy, but so complete was the protection of Allied surface ships and aircraft that they were unable to fire a single torpedo.

On at least 12 occasions when U-boats surfaced to attack they were pounced on by aircraft and forced under.

"Safe passage of the convoy," the Air Ministry News Service commented last night, "is an excellent illustration of the effectiveness of the cover for ocean convoys, and it is also an indication of the increase in aircraft range and numbers over the Atlantic."

THE story of the enemy's total defeat. This is the story of the enemy's total defeat.

THIRD DAY—Several U-boats reported by the convoy. Long-range aircraft kept watch.

SECOND DAY—Catalina flying-boats of the U.S. Navy left Iceland and swept the mid-Atlantic area, but the U-boats were awaiting more favourable conditions.

THIRD DAY—Coastal Command, Flying Fortresses, Liberators and Hudsons joined the Americans as the ships reached the most dangerous area.

The pack had increased in number and an attack seemed imminent.

U.S. Catalinas spotted two U-boats partly surfaced. After one of them the U-boat dived precipitately. Oil came to the surface.

CRASH-DIVED This afternoon several miles away, a submarine crashed-bowed before a Liberator conning tower. The U-boat was forced to surface and was then attacked by another U-boat to submerge and long contact with the convoy.

Within an hour the Liberator dropped its bombs in the track of the third submarine and machine-gunned the conning tower.

Signaling a U-boat five miles away, a Hudson swept low with machine-guns blazing and dropped bombs, and the U-boat was followed by wreckage.

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"Vichy To Defend Dakar"

WITH Goebbels' propaganda agents declaring that Dakar is in imminent danger of attack, reports from Vichy quoted in the Swedish Press yesterday spoke of Allied troop concentrations on the border between Gambia and French West Africa.

Comprehensive measures have been taken for the defence of Dakar, the reports added.

The German-controlled Brussels Radio declared that the Vichy Government has taken "a definite decision" on the defence of the French Empire and Dakar in particular.

Commenting on the situation in Dakar, a spokesman of the German-controlled Paris Radio said: "We learn of the death of a French soldier, Commander-in-Chief of our air forces in Dakar. He met his death over Dakar in the course of a fight."

This death and the flight of the French forces have put the American troops in danger. We hope it will be not so easy as in Madagascar," Reuter.

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"We preserve a system in striking contrast to those of our Allies—the U.S.A., the

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